

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, EI
SUBJECT: PROVO INTERVIEW

1. THREE UNIDENTIFIED PROVISIONAL IRA LEADERS, INTERVIEWED
IN THE SUNDAY INDEPENDENT COLUMN WIGMORE, ARE QUOTED IN THE
SEPTEMBER 19TH COLUMN AS ASSERTING THAT THE PROVISIONALS DID
IN FACT ASSASSINATE THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR IN DUBLIN BECAUSE
HE WAS SENT TO QUOTE COORDINATE BRITISH INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES
IN DUBLIN. END QUOTE. OTHER REASONS GIVEN WERE THAT IT WAS
DONE IN RETALIATION FOR THE QUOTE MURDER END QUOTE OF PETER
CLERY IN CROSSMAGLEN AND FOR THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SAS.

2. OTHER POINTS IN THE LENGTHY INTERVIEW:

-- ALTHOUGH HARD HIT BY ARRESTS, THE IRA ORGANIZATION IN
BRITAIN IS READY TO START A NEW CAMPAIGN UNDER THE QUOTE NEW
STRATEGY END QUOTE BUT WILL NOT DO SO UNLESS THE BRITISH
GOVERNMENT BREAKS OFF ALL CONTACTS WITH THE IRA.

-- THE ORGANIZATION IS THINKING ABOUT REVISING ITS
STRATEGY OF NON-RECOGNITION OF COURTS IN THE REPUBLIC.
THIS WOULD BE IN RESPONSE TO THE NEW LEGISLATION.

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-- THE PROVOS WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY FORM OF DEVOLVED

GOVERNMENT IN THE NORTH.

-- ONE OF THE INTERVIEWEES ADMITTED THAT THE IRA HAS NO POPULAR MANDATE, "BUT A REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT DOES NOT DEPEND ON A POPULAR MANDATE . . . ITS MANDATE COMES FROM THE JUSTICE AND CORRECTNESS OF ITS CAUSE. END QUOTE.

-- THE CURRENT PEACE MOVEMENT IS DISMISSED BECAUSE IT IS SEEKING A QUOTE TRANSIENT AND ILLUSORY PEACE END QUOTE.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO WAY OF JUDGING WHETHER THIS INTERVIEW REPRESENTS AUTHORITATIVE MAIN LINE PROVISIONAL THINKING. THE WIGMORE COLUMN, EDITED BY VINCENT BROWN, HAS HAD SIMILAR INTERVIEWS IN THE PAST AND IT IS RECOGNIZED THAT BROWN HAS GOOD PROVO CONTACTS. IN ANY EVENT, THE UNNAMED PERSONS INTERVIEWED WERE RATHER CHILINGLY ARTICULATE. IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE IF SUCH INTERVIEWS WILL BE PUBLISHED AFTER THE NEW ANTI-TERRORIST LEGISLATION GOES INTO EFFECT. SUCH AN ARTICLE COULD PRESUMABLY MAKE AN EDITOR LIABLE TO PROSECUTION. CURLEY

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